

# PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY



## FROM THE TIME OF OUR SAVIOR.

A bit of a mathematical problem: How many Catholics will be in the world's census of 2000 A. D.? Here's the rate of progression for nineteen centuries on the authority of a German Protestant statistician:

First century.....	500,000
Second century.....	2,000,000
Third century.....	3,000,000
Fourth century.....	10,000,000
Fifth century.....	15,000,000
Sixth century.....	20,000,000
Seventh century.....	25,000,000
Eighth century.....	40,000,000
Ninth century.....	48,000,000
Tenth century.....	56,000,000
Eleventh century.....	70,000,000
Twelfth century.....	80,000,000
Thirteenth century.....	85,000,000
Fourteenth century.....	90,000,000
Fifteenth century.....	100,000,000
Sixteenth century.....	125,000,000
Seventeenth century.....	175,000,000
Eighteenth century.....	250,000,000
Nineteenth century.....	315,000,000

What a procession of faith! The table shows that in times of great persecution our holy religion has made the most progress. This proves that indeed "the blood of martyrs is the seed of Christianity." Altogether, more than 1,500,000,000 have lived and died in the arms of holy mother church.

The census of the faithful in the year 2000 may swell the stupendous aggregate to the almost inconceivable total of 2,000,000,000—two thousand million Catholics.—*Exchange*.